

[REDACTED]
Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D. C. 20505

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IRAN-IRAQ MILITARY SITUATION REPORT #11
(As of 1200 EST, 16 March 1984)**Military Situation**

[REDACTED] no change in the battlelines on the southern Majnoon Island. The Iranians have at least two tanks on the southern island. Vehicle traffic on the pontoon bridge suggests it may be now complete, although we cannot confirm this judgment. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Press reports yesterday that Iraqi forces had seized additional portions of the islands almost certainly are untrue and probably refer to Iraqi gains on the southern part of the islands over the past week. [REDACTED]

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Comment: Iran continues to prepare for a major attack on Al Basrah. If the pontoon bridge is now complete, Iran likely will take a few days to build up its forces on the islands and then may launch attacks to drive the Iraqis off the islands. [REDACTED]

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Mediation

Iranian leaders made clear to the visiting Turkish Foreign Minister early this month that any formal mediation by third countries would be regarded by the Khomeini regime as a hostile act aimed at denying Iran certain victory over Iraq. [REDACTED]

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Comment: A variety of Third World states and international organizations have considered renewing mediation efforts in light of the recent Iranian attacks. Although leading clerics, like Assembly Speaker Rafsanjani, are calling privately for an end to the war, Ayatollah Khomeini has not moderated his determination to fight on. [REDACTED]

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This report was prepared by the Office of Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis of the Directorate of Intelligence. Questions may be directed to the Chief, Iran-Iraq Branch, Persian Gulf Division [REDACTED]

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